



soria

soria is Living History

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Guardian of the heritage of Soria for over 100 years

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vive LA celtiberia

planes con los que
se respira paz

una tierra llena de historias



A journey around celtiberian soria

Welcome to culture. Welcome to peace and quiet

Imagine that you could travel back over 2,000 years in time to when the Celtiberians were living on the peninsula and the Roman Empire was conquering its lands. Do you want to learn about the cities that tried to resist the Roman invasions? Step into an archaeologist's shoes and come discover a land that is rich in different cultures and steeped in ancient history and legends.

Getting to know the ancient Celtiberian peoples is the perfect excuse to fall in love with Soria. Stand still and listen for a moment to the silence, enjoy the natural scenery full of pure colours, find a pretty village hidden around each corner, savour a dish of mushrooms or gaze at a night sky filled with a million stars. Soria is a journey to a place where time stands still. In this story, all that's missing is you.



NUMANTIA



*Where resistance
became legend*

The best-known archaeological site in the province (Celtiberian in origin, from the 3rd and 2nd centuries BCE) conceals a **story worth filming**. The ancient city of Numantia **resisted the Roman Empire for 20 years**, from 153 to 133 BCE,

Finally, Publius Cornelius Scipio Aemilianus laid siege to Numantia, building a wall nine kilometres long with seven forts. After 11 months of siege, in which an army of **60,000 men fought 4,000** citizens of Numantia, the city was defeated by famine and disease.

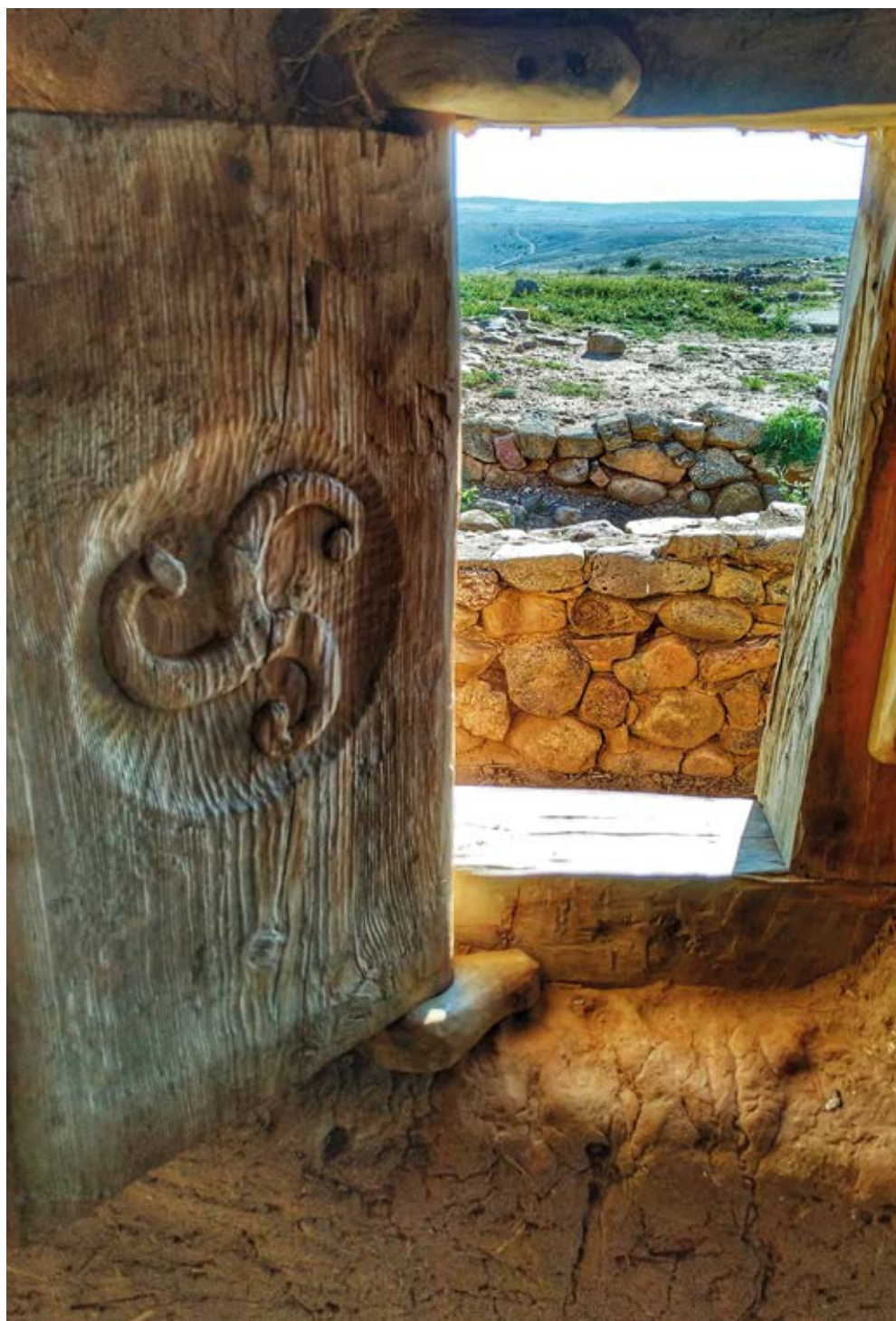
This heroic finale has become a **symbol of the fight for freedom**. This archaeological site has also provided **many clues to Celtiberian society and culture**. Fortunately, the archaeological remains of that past can still be seen today. When you go there, let your imagination fly back to an era when boats could sail up the river Duero and the city was surrounded by woodland. **Today, the impressive panorama from La Muela hill will unfold before you.**

What will you see?

The archaeological dig, which dates back to 1803, has revealed the remains of the ancient Celtiberian and Roman city. At the entrance you can see the **city walls and the north gate**. The route around it starts at the reception centre and then you will be given an explanation of how Scipio and the Romans **laid siege** to the city. After that, you will visit another nine places.

Among the most interesting are **two houses** that have been reconstructed complete with their furniture, **one Celtiberian and the other Roman**. You can also see how they collected rainwater in cisterns, and end up in the **southern district**, where houses were built in imitation of Roman taste, and where we know that a doctor and a scribe lived, for example.





Practical information

Ways to tour the site

Guided tours taking about one and a half hours. Tours with audioguide.

How to get there

You can reach it from Garray (seven kilometres from the city of Soria) via the N-111 (the Garray-Arnedo exit).

Other activities

- Public re-enactments of the Numantian Wars in August.
- Educational shows throughout the year.
- Scene-setting and historical re-enactment conferences three times a year.
- Samhain night, on 31 October in Garray.

Where can you end your visit?

- At the Archaeological Centre in the village of Garray.
- In **Renieblas**, less than 10 kilometres away, there is an archaeological site of Roman army camps from the 3rd, 2nd and 1st centuries BCE.
- In the **Numantine Museum** in the city of Soria.

Timetable and prices



www.numanciaonline.es

tiermes



The Spanish Pompeii



The “Petra of the West” and the “Spanish Pompeii” are two of the names given to this archaeological site, one of the most surprising in Europe. Excavated and built from russet-coloured rock, the ancient city of Termantia is still impressive over 2000 years later.

In Termantia, you must stop and watch the vultures soaring over the fields and enjoy the red sandstone cliffs, over 1200 metres high. Tiermes is simply magical.

What makes this city special? There are indications that people had lived here from the 6th century BCE, and it was allied to Numantia during the Celtiberian War, which pitted them against the Roman Empire. In fact, it was the last Arevaci city to be conquered in the Alto Duero area, in 98 BCE.

What will you see?

The archaeological remains in Termantia are mostly part of the Roman city. On your visit you can imagine the original appearance of the Sun Gate and the Western Gate, the 6000 m² Roman baths, the mansions which could have six floors or more and up to 35 rooms, or the forum with shops or “tabernae”.

And you can't miss the aqueduct that brought water to the city. You will also see tiered seating carved into the rock, which is believed to have been where the ancient Arevaci warriors laid out the bodies of those slain in combat for the vultures to devour and take their souls to the afterlife. Today, watching the vultures there at sunset is like being transported to the past.

A few metres away, you can also visit the 12th-century Romanesque chapel of Nuestra Señora de Tiermes. Take a look at its arched portico gallery. This place exudes calm.





Practical information

Ways to tour the site

A self-guided walk takes about an hour to visit all the points of interest.

How to get there

Branching off from the N-110 between Soria and Segovia, the SO-135 goes to Montejo de Tiermes, about eight kilometres from the archaeological site.

Timetable and prices

Access to the site is free.

Other activities

- The Plenilunio celebration takes place on the evening of the full moon (or the closest Saturday).
- The star-gazing event AstroTiermes in September.

Where can you end your visit?

- At the Tiermes Monographic Museum about a kilometre away.
- At the Numantine Museum in the city of Soria.

Timetable and prices



[www.sorianitelaimaginas.com/
patrimonio/tiermes](http://www.sorianitelaimaginas.com/patrimonio/tiermes)

uxdmd



*Stunning views over
El Burgo de Osma*



Not many people know that just two kilometres from El Burgo de Osma are traces of an ancient Celtiberian settlement, Uxama Argaela, one of the most important Arevaci cities during the Second Iron Age. Like Numantia and Termes, it also took part in the Celtiberian wars and was **conquered by Pompey in 72 BCE**. It eventually assimilated Roman culture and became an important point on the Via XVII between Asturica (Astorga) and Caesaraugusta (Zaragoza).

The history of this place is exciting, and reflected in the archaeological finds - weapons, fibulas (cloak pins), ceramics, etc. But what if we told you that this spot also offers some **incredible views**?

What will you see?

You could start your tour by going down into a large **semicircular underground cistern** which ensured the Roman city's water supply. You can also see the traces of the **Casa de "Los Plintos"**, the only excavated house that can be seen on-site, built in the period of Emperor Claudius (years 41-54), with over 20 rooms, a vegetable patch and a garden.

This visit includes an essential experience: **go up to the Islamic watchtower** right here for some incomparable views. You'll be able to see the magical medieval castle of Osma and its Water Tower, the gorge of the river Ucero, El Burgo de Osma, the Picos de Urbión mountains... And you can also see more watchtowers on the horizon. They all used to communicate with each other, using smoke signals, mirrors or sounds to warn of danger.

The **best light** to see it in... Probably at **sunset**.



Practical information

Formas de realizar el recorrido

Access to the Roman cisterns and the Islamic watchtower is free.

How to get there

The archaeological site is on the Alto del Castro, a hill just over two kilometres from the centre of El Burgo de Osma, between the N-122 road (Valladolid-Soria) and the gorge of the river Ucero.

Opening times

The educational centre, Roman cisterns and the Islamic watchtower open at 10 am. They close at different times depending on the time of year.

Ask the Tourist Office in El Burgo de Osma: +34 975360116.

Admission prices

Free admission.

Other activities

Take the opportunity to explore El Burgo de Osma and enjoy the monuments there, such as its Cathedral.

Where can you end your visit?

- Uxama has a small visitor centre, a kind of information and visitor centre.
- In El Burgo de Osma, you'll find a History Centre in the former Hospital of San Agustín.
- To understand how water was supplied to the ancient Roman city, it is interesting to visit the Ucero Aqueduct, some 18 kilometres from the site.
- At the Numantine Museum in the city of Soria.

Timetable and prices



www.sorianitelclaimaginas.com/patrimonio/uxama

Los casares de san pedro manrique



*The evolution of
communities in the Tierras Altas*

To reach this archaeological site you must pass through **dinosaur country** (the area is full of footprints or ichnofossils) and Soria's magical **Tierras Altas** or highlands. You will pass through some beautiful settings, such as the viewing point on the Oncala mountain pass, and then you will arrive in the Linares valley.

Your destination is the village of San Pedro de Manrique, next to the archaeological site of Los Casares, in a completely natural, unspoilt setting. It is important to note that this site does not have any facilities for visitors, and hardly any visible elements. However, one of the main attractions of this place is that archaeologists have found different structures from **three historical periods**: this area was a Celtiberian oppidum (the capital of a small city-state), a town in the Roman Empire, and a late-Visigoth-early medieval settlement. In other words, this area has a **fascinating past**.

What will you see?

Various recent excavations at the archaeological site of Los Casares have unearthed ceramics from different periods, a defensive **city wall** from the Celtiberian period, a Roman home and utensils, and the remains of **two late Visigothic houses**, which make this site quite exceptional, and whose floor plan we can now see.

As always with Celtiberian settlements, it is on high ground with amazing views. You'll feel the **wind on your face** as you see the distant ruins of San Pedro Manrique castle and the monastery of San Pedro El Viejo.





Los casares de san pedro manrique

Practical information

Ways to tour the site

The area is not set up for tourism, unlike better-known sites like Numantia.

For guided visits, especially in the dig season, ask at the Tourist Office in San Pedro Manrique:
+34 975381311.

How to get here

The archaeological site is one kilometre from San Pedro Manrique. It can be reached via the road to La Dehesa.

Timetable and prices

Entry is free, as there are no official facilities.



NUMANTIAN MUSEUM



*Guardian of the heritage
of Soria for over 100 years*

The best way to round off a journey of discovery of Celtiberian and Roman cities is with a visit to the Numantine Museum. Have you ever spent a sunny morning in the charming Alameda de Cervantes park, in the city of Soria? Just opposite is **the most important museum in the province of Soria**: the Numantine Museum.

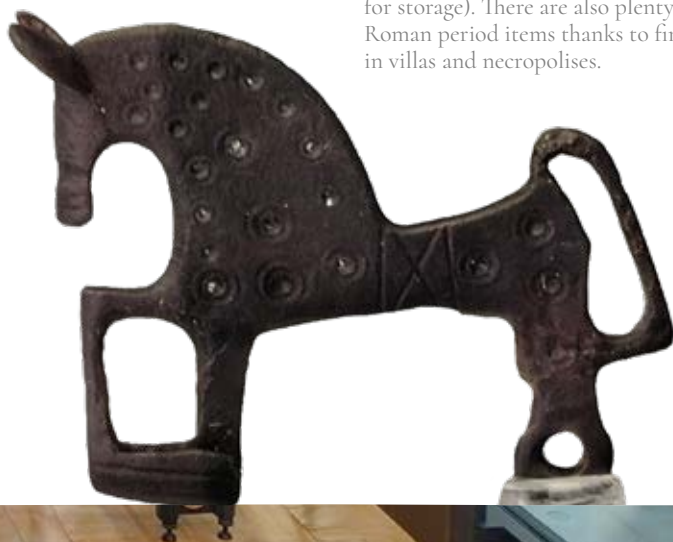
It has over 104,000 catalogued items, and is the province's History and Archaeology Museum, with pieces **from Prehistory to the Modern Age**. The original building was designed by Manuel Aníbal Álvarez, and the museum was funded by the Soria senator Ramón Benito Aceña. Today it conserves and exhibits the items unearthed in archaeological excavations.

What will you see?

Walking through its galleries is an exciting journey through history. The first and second floors are dedicated to Celtiberian culture, while on the ground floor you can learn about the Paleolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman culture, the Visigothic period, the Middle Ages and the Modern Era.

The Celtiberian period is represented by the unique polychrome ceramics of Numantia, fibulas, pectoral ornaments, weapons and tools from Numantia, Uxama, Tiermes and other archaeological sites.

You can see a **reconstruction of a traditional Celtiberian house** (there was one area for the hearth, another for sleeping, and another for storage). There are also plenty of Roman period items thanks to finds in villas and necropolises.





NUMANTINE MUSEUM

Practical information

How to get here

The museum is on Paseo del Espolón, 8,
in the city of Soria.

Other activities

- ◉ Educational workshops for children.
- ◉ The museum holds concerts, lecture series, etc.

Timetable and prices



www.museoscastillayleon.jcyl.es

roman villa "La dehesa"



*The Romanisation
of Celtiberian society*



Would you like to see a Roman mosaic that has been in the same place for 17 centuries? Or to find out what a **large, luxurious Roman villa** was like? In Cuevas de Soria, you will find the Roman villa of "La Dehesa", around which the **Magna Mater Museum** was created. The villa was a mansion with a floor area of nearly 4,000 m² which **belonged to a Romanised Celtiberian family** (the Irrico family, whose anagram is everywhere in the villa). It had **over 30 rooms, 1,400 m² of geometric mosaics**, and was built in the mid-4th century.

The villa was discovered in 1927 and is a perfect example of how the process of adaptation and Romanisation of Celtiberian society took place.

What will you see?

The first thing you will see is the museum, which explains the three iconic Roman villas of the province: "Los Quintanares" in Rioseco de Soria, "Los Villares" in Santervás del Burgo, and this one. You will also find information about the figure of the goddess Magna Mater, and an interesting virtual reconstruction of the Roman villa.

Then you can visit the site. Did you know that no other villa in the Roman world had the same distribution and that it was one of the **first in Spain to be completely excavated**, or that more than **14 million tesserae** were used to pave its floors? As you walk along the paths around a garden space, you can imagine the owners strolling there and smelling the aromatic plants. You can picture them putting their wooden sandals on to enjoy the thermal baths (a bathtub has been restored that is unique in Spain) or reclining to eat in the *triclinium*.





roman villa "La dehesa"

Practical information

How to get here

From the city of Soria, take the SO-100 road - it's about a 20-minute drive.

Other activities

Evening tours, family workshops, concerts, book presentations, scientific and gastronomical evenings and exhibitions on Roman engineering.

Where can you end your visit

Less than 40 kilometres away is the **Roman villa** of "Los Quintanares". Here, there is an interesting **cultural space** called "**OPS. The lower mill**". This is an archaeology project that has restored an ancient mill, where you can also learn about the villa. So far, 32 mosaics have been discovered, and it once had a floor area of 3,000 m².

Timetable and prices



www.villaromanaladehesa.es



Live celtiberia

In Soria we don't just talk about history, we encourage you to live it. There are things to do at any time that may surprise you, and you may even experience traditions that have existed for over 2,000 years. Here are just a few:

Fire walking and Múndidas in San Pedro de Manrique

A ritual in which the young men of the village run barefoot across hot coals, alone or carrying someone on their backs. It's something you have to experience!

The night of 23 June and 24 June.

Full moon festival

Bonfires and dances are organised and a special menu is offered by the Hotel-Restaurante Termes, where you can try melikraton, a Celtiberian potion. Do you dare?

Nights with a full moon or the closest Saturday.

Samhain

This festival of Celtic origin symbolises the crossing of the world from light to darkness and pays tribute to fallen warriors.

31 October.

Public re-enactments of the Numantian Wars

History comes to life, with parades of Numantian and Roman troops and a re-enactment on the Graderío de la Hoya outdoor stage, next to the archaeological site of Numantia.

The first Saturday in August.



On a path through time

During the “Festival de las Ánimas”, Castilfrío de la Sierra and Carrascosa de la Sierra pay homage to their nomadic shepherds and the rituals surrounding death in the Celtiberian world.

1 and 2 November.

Toro Jubilo

The pretty village of Medinaceli celebrates an ancestral Celtiberian ritual relating to bulls and fire.

The Saturday night closest to
13 November.

Re-enactment days in Numantia

Three times a year, life returns to the streets, houses and spaces of Numantia.

Pig Slaughter Culinary Festival in El Burgo de Osma

Over three months, El Burgo de Osma is home to a culinary ritual, including bagpipe music and menus of 20 dishes or more.

Weekends from January to March in the restaurant Virrey Palafox.

The background of the page is a landscape photograph. The top half shows a clear blue sky with some light, wispy clouds. The bottom half shows a calm body of water, likely a lake or reservoir, reflecting the sky. The shoreline is rocky and brown, with some sparse green vegetation. In the distance, there are rolling hills and mountains under a hazy sky.

Holiday ideas for peace and

“Wanderer, there is no road, the road is made by walking,” wrote Antonio Machado. It’s the perfect phrase to describe a journey to Soria, which will surprise you. We offer some ideas for lengthening your stay, but always at a gentle pace.

The charm of Soria is the real idea.



And quiet

“Wanderer, there is no road, the
road is made by walking”

Antonio Machado.



Wander along the paths in **nature areas** that you have to see at least once in your lifetime: the Cañón del Río Lobos Natural Park, Laguna Negra and Urbión Glacial Cirques Natural Park, Moncayo, the Caracena gorge, Acebal de Garagüeta, Sabinar de Calatañazor, La Fuentona Natural Monument, the beech grove of Diustes, and more.

Experience Soria in all **four seasons**: in spring with its green fields, in summer with its impressive fields of sunflowers, in autumn when the birds migrate and mushrooms are picked, and in winter with deep blue skies and the smell of roasting chestnuts and wood fires.



Get to know **Roman Soria**: in addition to the remains and Roman villas we have proposed, there are other places with a unique Roman history. For example, Medinaceli, with the only triple Roman arch in Spain, and the Augustóbriga visitor centre in Muro.



Look up at one of the best skies in Spain for star-gazing. And they'll help you to do it at the Borobia Astronomical Observatory. You can also attend astronomy-related events at AstroTiermes and San Felices.



Climb on board the Campos de Castilla Train. The train leaves from Madrid and includes visits to places in Soria, such as the Monastery of San Juan de Duero, Laguna Negra and the site of Numancia.



Taste typical products, including the world's best torreznos (pork rinds), black truffles, butter from Soria, the wines of Ribera del Duero, and more. And remember, Soria is the land of mushrooms and there are many activities based on mushrooms, such as mushroom trails, mycological trails and more.



Stop off in amazing villages, like Caracena and its canyon, Berlanga de Duero and its castle walls, San Esteban de Gormaz and its historic centre, El Burgo de Osma and its cathedral, Calatañazor with its traditional architecture, Yanguas, the gateway to the Tierras Altas, Almazán, with its churches and its pottery, Vinuesa and its stately homes, Ágreda, the capital of Moncayo, Morón de Almazán and its Plaza Mayor square, Rello, perched on top of a cliff, and more.

Thrill to the words of the writers who were inspired by Soria, such as Antonio Machado, Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer and Gerardo Diego.





Always keep a day free for the city of Soria, where you will be amazed by magical places like the Hermitage of San Saturio.

Enjoy family fun with activities like a dinosaur footprint hunt on the Icnitas Route.



A Land filled v

What is it about Soria that delighted the

“I particularly recommend two p
de San Pedro in Soria and Moro

“The peace and quiet, the silence, going for miles without
seeing another soul, being able to travel through a coun-
tryside dotted with churches, hermitages and villages...
This is what makes the traveller fall in love with it”

Marian Arlegui.

Director of the Numantine Museum

“Don’t forget the festivals and traditions of this land:
the Pinochada, Barrosa, Paloteos, Múndidas festival,
the Soldadesca militia, the Fire Walking, Rosco,
Mayos, Zarrón, Toro Jubilo and more...”

Carlos Munilla.

Director of the project “IGNIS research-action”

With History

people who had strong ties to this land?

places in this province: the cloisters of the Concatedral
n de Almazán with its square and Costume Museum”

Rodolfo Santamaría.

Manager of SoriamuséuM



“The people in the south of the province are incredible. The sense of peace given off by places like Rello, Retortillo, Arenillas, Caltojar or Berlanga de Duero is an experience not to be missed.”

Juan Manuel de Pablo Andrés.

Owner of the hotel-restaurant Termes

A Land filled with

What is it about Soria that delighted the

“You mustn’t miss the view from the Uxama watchtower, where the visibility is good, you can see Moncayo”

Carmen

Professor of Archaeology at the University of Soria

“In Soria we have a unique landscape in the Iberian Peninsula, studied by

“When visiting the highlands, with villages like El Escorial and Magaña and landscapes like the Diustes basin, there is not a village where you will not find something that makes you think you are travelling back in time”

Eduardo

Manager of the scientific team for the archaeological work at Los Casares archaeological site

With History II

people who had strong ties to this land?

where, if

García-Merino.
ty of Valladolid

ve inherited probably the best skies on the
ded with hundreds of stars”

Alberto Jiménez.

Monitor-astronomer at El Castillo Astronomic Observatory (Borobia)

Yanguas
ech forest,
me corner
time”

duardo Alfaro.
the excavation
naeological site

soria

es otra historia



GOBIERNO
DE ESPAÑA

MINISTERIO
DE INDUSTRIA, COMERCIO
Y TURISMO

SECRETARÍA DE ESTADO
DE TURISMO